



Ka Nūhou

Volume 31, No. 4

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

October/December 2005



George Aukai, center, receives an ovation as he is called for an Undivided Interest Award at La'i 'Ōpua in Kailua-Kona. Also pictured are Phil Urguharp, left, Melissa Aukai, Willette Allen and Diana Aukai.

Hana Hou! 300 Undivided Interest Awards at La'i 'Ōpua

The Undivided Interest Awards Program arrived on the Big Island when more than 800 people jammed the Kealakehe High School Cafeteria on October 8, 2005 for the offering of 300 Undivided Interest leases at Villages 4 and 5 of La'i 'Ōpua.

Both villages are located adjacent to the Kealakehe High School and represents the continued expansion of the thriving community of Kaniohale that was built in 1998.

Families drove in from South Point, Hilo, and Waimea for the chance

to be offered a lease for a lot in the ahupua'a that sits on the slopes of Mauna Loa. It was evident from the beginning that a special day was unfolding as smiling faces, warm hugs and long hellos consumed the early morning.

With no financial qualification for accepting a lease award and up to four years to complete the Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP), it was pretty easy to step up and say yes to a lease award, and 300 families did.

Continued on page 4

Keolahou: a new life

By Rubie Helekahi

Qualifying for a loan to replace a house beyond repair is one of the many obstacles Hawaiian families are faced with. Without the many prayers of family members and friends and assistance from generous foundations, our family would not have been able to acquire this beautiful home we have now.

In November 2004, as the rain poured down and the dirt slipped away, we watched our house, built in the Papakōlea Homestead in 1941, collapse. Over the years, our once three-bedroom, one-bath house was converted into one "livable" bedroom with a bath, kitchen and living room. Our other rooms had no floors since termites had made a meal of our house.

A few months prior to our house falling, our family was introduced to Kali Watson and Patti Barbee from the Hawaiian Community Development Board (HCDB). HCDB is a community-based, non-profit development



The old Helekahi house.

agency incorporated in 2000 with the express mission of facilitating affordable, suitable, homeownership and community development opportunities for Hawaiian homestead beneficiaries.

We met all the requirements of this program except being pre-approved by a bank. After being denied by two banks, we went to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) hoping to get assistance. The DHHL staff was excited to finally tell us that we qualified for a three-bedroom, two-bath home. Shortly after, our house fell.

The next step of this long but rewarding process was to follow up with our contractor "Buddy" from J. Apana Construction. Things were in full gear until an easement line running through our property held up

Continued on page 4



The new Helekahi home.

Contents

Governor's message.....	2
Chairman's message.....	2
Hawai'i loses passionate advocate.....	3
Dumping in storm drainage system.....	3
Name changes for 'Vegas married couples.....	3
Changing lives in Wai'anae.....	5
DHHL staff highlight - Ben Henderson.....	6



Season's Greetings from the Office of the Chairman



Governor's message:

Aloha Kākou,

I am reminded every holiday season to count my blessings for what I have and to keep hope for what can be. It is a great time to reflect on our past year and envision a better future, especially for those less fortunate.

This holiday season I would like to send a special mahalo to the members of our armed forces and their families. As you know, many of our troops serving overseas come from our homesteads and communities. Our troops and their families have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, and we owe our freedom and well-being to all of them. Thank you for what you have done and for what you continue to do.

I would like to send a special holiday greeting to Uncle Tony Sang and the leadership of the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations, the nine members of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the dedicated staff at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Thank you for your continued support. It truly means a lot to me as we work together to fulfill the long-standing commitments made to the Hawaiian people.

As this year ends and the new year approaches, I hope everyone had a great 2005 and wish everyone a safe and happy 2006. I am looking forward to new homes, new communities, and many, many new homestead lessees in the coming years.

Mālama Pono,

LINDA LINGLE, GOVERNOR



Chairman's message:

Aloha Kākou,

As 2005 comes to a close, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the wonderful support they have shown our staff and our department this past year.

We are ending the year strong with the 300 Undivided Interest Awards in the Villages of La'i 'Ōpua, Kona and the first 76 of 326 Turn-Key Lease Awards at Kaupe'a at the Villages of Kapolei.

In early 2006, we will continue with the awarding of the remaining 250 Kaupe'a lots and the awarding of Leali'i and Waiehu Kou IV on Maui. We are also looking forward to the Undivided Interest Awards for Anahola on Kaua'i. These are just a few of our projects for 2006.

As I have said throughout the year, we have set our course and our journey has begun. The opportunities for homeownership are here and are on the horizon. With the establishment of the Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP), we are finally able to help those families who have been bypassed on the wait list because they have not been able to financially qualify for a home loan. Homeownership is a partnership, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is committed to doing its part.

On behalf of the DHHL 'ohana, I would like to wish all of our beneficiaries and their 'ohana a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ho 'omoe wai kāhi ke kāo 'o.

Let all travel like water flowing in one direction.

God Speed,

Micah A. Kane, Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission



Ka Nūhou

A publication of the State Department of
Hawaiian Home Lands

Chairman's Office:
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2000
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Ph. (808) 586-3800 - Fax. (808) 586-3899

Information and Community Relations Office:
Suite 2000
Ph. (808) 586-3840 - Fax. (808) 586-3843

Governor Linda Lingle
Micah A. Kane, Chairman, Hawaiian Homes Commission

Hawaiian Homes Commissioners
Billie Baclig, Hawai'i
Stuart Hanchett, Kaua'i
Malia Kamaka, West Hawai'i
Quentin Kawananakoa, O'ahu
Mahina Martin, Maui
Trish Morikawa, O'ahu
Milton Pa, Moloka'i

Lloyd Yonenaka, Public Information Officer

Kenneth H. Toguchi, Editor
Rhonda Funn, Associate Editor
Leanella Kauwenaole, Associate Editor

Ka Nūhou is published by the Information and Community Relations Office of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide information to and about the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended. No part of this publication may be copied or reprinted in any form without the express permission of the department.

Photo Credits:

Lloyd Yonenaka, Kamana'o Mills, Rhonda Funn,
Francis Apoliona, Ben Bright, Patti Barbee,
Amanda Masuyama and Mary Shimizu

Printed on recycled paper.



DHHL logo created by Stacey Leong Mills. The lau and hōkū symbolize Papa and Wākea, the two cosmogonic creators of the Hawaiian people. Papa, Earth-Mother, is symbolized by the lau (kalo leaf). Wākea, Sky-Father, is symbolized by the hōkū (star).

Building



Upcoming HOAP Orientation Sessions

January 11, 2006
O'ahu - King Intermediate School

January 25, 2006
Kaua'i - Kekaha Neighborhood Center

February 1, 2006
O'ahu - Stevenson Intermediate School

Each session runs from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. and is free of charge. For registration or more information, call (808) 791-3403 or (866) 897-4384 toll-free or visit www.dhhlhoap.org.



Paige Barber: Hawai‘i loses passionate advocate



The Hawaiian community lost a passionate and fierce advocate in August with the passing of Paige Colleen Leina‘ala Kawelo Barber. As the founder, CEO and president of Nānākuli Housing Corporation, Paige leaves a legacy of hope, care and understanding for Hawaiian families whose dreams are to own their own homes or repair and renovate their existing homes.

Born at Kapi‘olani Children’s Hospital on December 23, 1938, Paige was a welcome addition to George and Philamena Kawelo. The eldest of nine children, Paige was raised in Nānākuli and graduated from Waipahu High School in 1958. On December 17, 1960 she married the love of her life, Bert Kaihe Barber. Together they made their home in Kailua, O‘ahu and raised seven amazing children. Bert and Paige were married for 45 years.



Paige Barber, center, and the NHC staff.

At age 43, Paige was driven to become more competitive in her field and sought degrees in higher education. Within two years, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Antioch University on March 23, 1984. Two years later, on May 18, 1986, she graduated with a Master’s Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.

Most remembered for her wonderful laugh, beautiful smile, unending generosity, ‘ono cooking, hospitality and kindness to all she met, Paige was driven and determined to help Hawaiian families. It was Paige’s dream, and the vision of Nānākuli Housing Corporation, that every native Hawaiian family will have their own home.

Nānākuli Housing Corporation (NHC) was formed in 1989 by residents who wanted to eliminate dilapidated houses. NHC serves the Native Hawaiian community through four programs as follows:

- 1) Education and training – financial literacy, home ownership education, house repair and renovation.
- 2) Base Yard Hawai‘i – re-use center that distributes recycled construction materials donated by contractors, homeowners and businesses, to families with limited incomes, including elderly and disabled.
- 3) Project Hana Hou, A Second Life – home repair and replacement utilizing recycled habitable homes and materials from military bases.
- 4) Handy Masters – construction job placement and referrals for small home repair jobs.

Over the past three years, NHC has served more than 500 families who attended educational and training workshops. NHC has trained the largest number of native Hawaiians in home ownership and financial literacy in Hawai‘i and in 2002 received the Best Practices award from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Through NHC and her endeavors, Paige’s legacy continues to impact the lives of many Hawaiians. She will never be forgotten. ➤

Editor’s note: This article was compiled with assistance from Nānākuli Housing Corporation.

Dumping in storm drainage system

Illegal dumping runs contrary to the adage of “mālama ‘āina.” At times one looks at the heap and wonders “Is this really Hawaiian home lands?” The stench brings on the rude awakening that the dumping is really happening, and it is on Hawaiian home lands.

Dumping in the storm drainage system is a major concern not only to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the City and County of Honolulu, but also to many area residents alike.

With the rainy season upon us, blocked drainage channels and culverts increase the possibility of flooding to surrounding homes. Illegal dumps could also compromise ocean quality and marine life if pollutants were present in the dump or in nearby dumps that wash into the storm drainage system.

One such area that was cited by the County is the culvert that runs behind 13 homestead lots on the 600 block of Mokiawe Street. Debris had accumulated in the storm drainage system. According to their homestead lease, homesteaders whose property abuts the culvert are responsible



DHHL staff joined residents and church members in cleaning the drainage ditch.

for keeping it clear of debris. Failure to comply with any terms and conditions of the lease could result in a contested case hearing.

The County has yet to issue any fines. It is allowing time for the lessees to clean up the area before fines are issued. The department encourages lessees to participate in a clean-up of their communities.

A community clean-up was organized by Juan Garcia, DHHL’s O‘ahu District Supervisor, and conducted on Saturday, November 26, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It gave the lessees an opportunity to clean the area with community involvement. Tajiri Lumber hauled all of the litter and overgrowth to the landfill. The bulky items were left on the curbside for pick-up by the County. Pastor Alan Cardines and DHHL’s Joe Poomaihealani operated Kobayashi Construction’s heavy machinery that was loaned for the clean-up.



Blocked drainage channels increase the possibility of flooding.

Illegal dumping needs to stop. Our ‘āina deserves better. ➤



Name changes for ‘Vegas-married couples

June Watanabe’s 2004 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* Kokua Line column entitled “What couples wed in ‘Vegas should know” was recently circulated in DHHL offices and may be of concern to some *Ka Nūhou* readers.

The article stated that a woman inquirer was recently married in Las Vegas and decided to take on her husband’s surname. Although she

changed her name on her driver’s license, credit cards, membership cards, medical plan, vehicle registration, bank accounts and credit union accounts, she discovered that her new name was not legal in Hawai‘i until it is legally changed with the Lt. Governor’s Office.

After consulting with the Lt. Governor’s Office and the Attorney General’s Office, Watanabe found that since Nevada marriages do not

provide a procedure for individuals to publicly declare what names will be adopted and used after the wedding, Hawai‘i’s change of name law applies.

In the formal name change procedure with the Lt. Governor’s Office, you must submit a notarized petition; pay a \$100 nonrefundable filing fee; and get a notice of the name change signed by the Lt. Governor and published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the state of Hawai‘i.

In addition to the filing fee, there is also a Bureau of Conveyances fee of \$25 and the cost of publishing a notice in a newspaper of general circulation. For more information, call (808) 586-0255 or visit <http://www.hawaii.gov/lsgov/office/name.html>. ➤

Hana Hou!

Continued from page 1

The community is being built in three phases of 100 homes each, which means the La‘i ‘Ōpua homesteads allows new lessees the flexibility to move into their new home when they are ready. Site work for the project will begin in June 2006 and completion is expected in September 2007.

Phase 1 is Village 5 and home construction will begin in 2007 with the last home completed in 2008. Village 4 is Phase 2 and 3. Homes in Phase 2 will be completed in the 2008-2009 timeframe, and Phase 3 is set for 2009-2010.

Minimum lot size is 6,000 sq. ft. with two, three, and four bedroom homes expected to be part of the house selection package for new lessees.

La‘i ‘Ōpua is one of the Master Planned Communities the department is developing throughout the state and is part of the ahupua‘a that stretches from the villages down to the Honokōhau Harbor. Besides housing, the area is projected for economic development

surrounding the harbor as well as educational and medical development on the hillsides below the villages. ➤



The Helekahi family is pictured during their housewarming celebration.

Keolahou: a new life

Continued from page 1

construction for a month. Redrawing house plans, resubmitting paperwork and adding an extra pillar to our house was needed in order to start construction. Throughout this entire ordeal, our contractor and his crew were very accommodating and did what they could to help our family, even if it meant painting three different color rooms, which I love! On October 1, 2005, we were handed our house keys and welcomed into our new “yellow” home.

From the Consuelo Foundation, Beth Murph and Joey Kahala helped our family put together the best house warming we could have imagined. They catered all the food and drinks, rented chairs and tables and even got the ‘Iolani Palace ‘Ukulele Band to provide live music. Helping with the house warming is not this Foundation’s limit. They also helped in job placement and whatever else was needed to “successfully take on a new responsibility of a mortgage and home maintenance.”

Everyone we have met through “Keolahou: A New Life program,” only wanted the best for our family.

The Eugene and Joe-Ann Helekahi family extends their warmest mahalo to the Hawaiian Community Development Board; Consuelo Foundation; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; American Savings Bank; Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center; Child and Family Service; Honolulu Habitat for Humanity; State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; our contractor J. Apana Contractors and his crew; our family and friends; and our church, the four Congregational Church-namely ‘Auwaiolimu, Waikāne, Wahiawā and Waimānalo under the care of our Kahu John Kalili.

“ ‘A ‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia” - No task is too big when done together by all. ➤

Hawaiian home lands telephone service

Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. is the telecommunications service provider to newly-developed areas of Hawaiian home lands throughout the state of Hawai‘i.

Rates for one-party residential service range from \$9.90 to \$14.40 per month, depending on the island residence. In addition, high-speed DSL service is available with a variety of speed options priced from \$28.95 to \$74.95.

Lifeline & Linkup services are available to eligible low income subscribers through the Telephone Assistance Program. Their customer service representatives will be able to provide you with information regarding eligibility and discounts offered.

If you are a first-time Hawaiian home land’s recipient, please contact Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. at (888) 995-7274 regarding your telephone service.

Service applies to newly-developed Department of Hawaiian Home Lands residential and business structures.



A family that is changing lives in Wai‘anae



By Mehana Young
O‘ahu Foster Family Advocate, Kōkua ‘Ohana

“If you place a child outside of the only place he or she knows and loves, it will only add to the void already inside of them, having already suffered the separation from their parents and the ones they love,” shares Jadeen Meyers.

Jadeen and Kalani Meyers became foster parents after someone close to them was going through difficult times and needed her daughter to be in a safe place. Two years later they adopted their daughter, Nanea Meyers.

The entire experience has given Jadeen a passion to help other children who need a safe and nurturing place to live. “Words cannot explain what our daughter has done for us. She filled a void we never knew existed. Through her we learned unconditional love, patience, and the true meaning of forgiving. Our daughter can never do anything to take away the love we have for her. She is truly a gift and a blessing from God.”

Often foster families wonder if they would ever be able to love another person’s child and accept them as their own. “There are many children in our community that need love and a family that is willing to open their hearts to these children unconditionally.”

“These families can teach them that they were designed to be here on earth for a purpose” Jadeen explains. It has been through their steady faith that the Meyers’ family has been able to meet the challenges of fostering and adopting. Jadeen and Kalani reference their family members and their church, The Ark of Safety Christian Fellowship, as critical pillars of support.

Last year, there was an average of 5,776 children placed in Hawai‘i’s state foster care system. Almost 50 percent (2,358) were children of Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian ancestry. Only half of those children are placed in families who share their Hawaiian ethnicity and cultural heritage.

The Kōkua ‘Ohana project is working to create cultural balance in the state foster care system with the help of community members like Jadeen and Kalani Meyers. The Kōkua ‘Ohana project is partnering



Jadeen, Nanea and Kalani Meyers.

they have made” explains Kōkua ‘Ohana Program Supervisor, Amanda Masuyama.

Ark of Safety Christian Fellowship church has decided to step up to this cause and have created the Hui ‘Ohana Ministry, led by Jadeen, who works as the church’s youth pastor. This ministry is partnering with Kōkua ‘Ohana Project and the state of Hawai‘i to encourage church members to think about becoming foster parents. The ministry is also providing foster families with new baby supplies and care items when a child is placed in a home.

“Ark of Safety Christian Fellowship is a wonderful example of a group of people with the heart to reach out and impact their community. We believe partnerships with churches like this one will create a great increase in quality families for our foster children,” says Amanda Masuyama.

For more information about becoming a foster parent or partnering your church or organization with Kōkua ‘Ohana, call the main office at 595-6320 or visit <http://pidfoundation.org/ohana/>. ➤

2006 Hawaiian Homes Commission Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule for the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) for the 2006 calendar year is listed below. Homestead Community Meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings from March through December (there are no community meetings scheduled for January or February 2006). Regular Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. the day after the Homestead Community Meetings.

DATE	MEETING TYPE	LOCATION
January 24	Regular	Honolulu (DHHL)
February 28	Regular	Honolulu (DHHL)
March 20	Community	Ho‘olehua, Moloka‘i
March 21	Regular	Kalama‘ula, Moloka‘i
April 24	Community	Anahola, Kaua‘i
April 25	Regular	Līhu‘e, Kaua‘i
May 22	Community	Waimea, Hawai‘i
May 23	Regular	Waimea, Hawai‘i
June 19	Community	Papakōlea, O‘ahu
June 20	Regular	Honolulu (DHHL)

DATE	MEETING TYPE	LOCATION
July 24	Community	Lāna‘i City, Lāna‘i
July 25	Regular	Lāna‘i City, Lāna‘i
August 21	Community	Wai‘anae, O‘ahu
August 22	Regular	Honolulu, O‘ahu
September 25	Community	Kona, Hawai‘i
September 26	Regular	Kona, Hawai‘i
October 23	Community	Paukūkalo, Maui
October 24	Regular	Paukūkalo, Maui
November 20	Community	Nānākuli, O‘ahu
November 21	Regular	Honolulu (DHHL)
December 18	Community	Waimānalo, O‘ahu
December 19	Regular	Honolulu (DHHL)



DHHL staff highlight

Ben Henderson



During a recent Arakaki Case hearing, Ben took matters to the street.

People are the heart of any organization. While the mission statements and organization charts define what is done and who is doing it, it's the passion and dedication of its people that makes that heart beat strong and an organization thrive.

Deputy to the Chairman Ben Henderson has devoted over 30 years of outstanding public service in the State of Hawai'i. He began his career with the City and County of Honolulu where he worked for 10 years as a planner, policy analyst and program administrator. In 1981 he accepted a position with the newly-created Office of Hawaiian Affairs, serving as its Chief Planner and Deputy Administrator.

For the past 19 years, Henderson has brought his passion and dedication to the Hawaiian community through his work at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Starting as the administrator of the Planning Office, he later became the department's Executive Assistant in 1990.

In 2003, Henderson was named as the Deputy to the Chairman by Governor Linda Lingle. As the Deputy to the Chairman, he is responsible for overseeing internal operations, coordinating the department's legislative program, and for advising the Hawaiian Homes Commission on policy matters; all with an unwavering duty to native Hawaiians.

Born and raised in Hawai'i, Ben Henderson grew up on the Hawaiian homestead in Waimānalo, O'ahu. He is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and Arizona State University (B.S. Mathematics, 1971). He and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters, Blythe and Moani.

"Ben is an important member of our leadership team. His quiet and humble persona is woven throughout the fabric of our department," said Micah Kane, Chairman, Hawaiian Homes Commission. The heartbeat of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands beats stronger today than ever before because of Ben. Mahalo nui loa. ➤



Governor Linda Lingle and Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr. with Ben.



Ben with his high school sweetheart and wife of 35 years, Nancy.



Ben walks daughter Blythe down the aisle.



Ben and daughter Moani walk their dogs.



La'i 'Ōpua Villages 4 & 5 last selectee, Layton C. Kahale, and his wife, hold the Lot Selection Sheet, with Kaulana Park, far left, Micah Kane and Ben.

Return Service Requested

PERMIT NO. 574
HONOLULU, HI
US POSTAGE PAID
STANDARD
PRESORTED

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
POST OFFICE BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

